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 (74) Agent: VOSSIUS & PARTNER; P.O. Box 86 07 67, D-81634 München (DE). (81) Designated States: BR, CA, CN, JP, US, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).
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(81) Designated States: BR, CA, CN, IP, US, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE
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3

(54) Title: ANTIGEN PRESENTATION SYSTEM BASED ON RETROVIRUS-LIKE PARTICLES

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to the provision of an antigen presentation system on the basis of a DNA sequence encoding a protein capable of self assembly into particles without a lipid membrane, preferably a retroviral group-specific antigen (gag) that can be used, e.g., for the preventive and therapeutic immunization of mammals against infectious diseases or neoplasias.

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Inter onal Application No PCI/EP 96/01433

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 C12N15/49 C12N15/62 C07K14/03 C07K19/00 C07K14/16 A61K39/245 A61K39/21

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 C12N A61K C07K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 91 07425 A (ONCOGEN LIMITED PARTNERSHIP) 30 May 1991	1-9, 11-13, 16,17, 19-26
	see examples 8,9	
X	EP 0 508 809 A (BRITISH BIOTECHNOLOGY LIMITED) 14 October 1992 see the whole document	1-26
X	WO 91 05864 A (CONNAUGHT LABORATORIES LIMITED) 2 May 1991	1,3,6-9, 11-13, 16,19-26
	see the whole document	
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* Special categories of cited documents: *A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means 'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed 	 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. '&' document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 6 March 1997	Date of mailing of the international search report 17.03.97
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo til, Fax (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Skelly, J

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Interr vial Application No PC1/EP 96/01433

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C.(Continu	DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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X	WO 92 03537 A (THERION BIOLOGICS CORPORATION) 5 March 1992	1,3-8, 15-17, 19-26
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Conunua	non) D CUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	Relevant to claim No.
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	see examples 1-5	
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International application No.

PCT/EP 96/01433

Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Int	ternational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. X	Claims Nos.: 26 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Remark: Although claim 26 is directed to a method of treatment of (diagnostic method practised on) the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the
2.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Int	ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searches without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark	on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

nformation on patent family members

inter fonal Application No PCI/EP 96/01433

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